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Docket #
98-045N

54 Forest Oaks
Durham, North Carolina 27705
September 15, 1999

FDA/Dockets Management Branch
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, Maryland 20852

RE: Docket No. 97N-0074

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to urge you to address food safety hazards first at the source - with mandatory safeguards at the animal production stage.

Some of the problems include overcrowding animals, subjecting them to stressful procedures and conditions, feeding them chicken litter and feces, rendering diseased animals into animal feed, excessive use of antibiotics and other drugs and inhumane and unhygienic transport and slaughter.

I know there is a great deal of pressure from industry to exclude animals from consideration in your analysis but I beg you to carefully consider their conditions and how these conditions affect our food supply.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Alma Blackwelder